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Letter dated 8 August 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I attach an official statement entitled "Rwanda's proposal for a disengagement plan" (see annex) as a move towards facilitating further implementation of the Lusaka Agreement and a full-fledged deployment of the United Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo according to the Lusaka Agreement and Security Council resolution 1291 (2000).

We hope that the Security Council is going to take up this offer and act upon the impasse into which President Kabila seems to have drawn the Council.

I would appreciate if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Joseph W. **Mutaboba**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 8 August 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Rwanda's proposal for a disengagement plan

1. The Government of Rwanda is concerned by the fact that there have been unnecessary delays in the implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement.

2. It is a year since the Agreement was signed, yet the work that has been done by the Joint Military Commission and the Political Committee has been consistently thwarted by the Kinshasa Government through numerous ceasefire violations.

3. Recently, escalating violations of the Ceasefire Agreement have been observed in the form of generalized offensives, particularly in the Equator province, and as we speak some evident attacks in the southern sector. The Rwandan Government believes it may be helpful to provide a clear signal that Rwanda is willing to contribute whatever it can to facilitate the implementation of the Lusaka Agreement.

4. Rwanda proposes to go ahead in the spirit of the disengagement plan and sub-plans, as per the Kampala Agreement for Rwandan Patriotic Army troops to disengage from certain positions on the front line in order to provide a clear and wide disengagement zone that cannot be easily breached by any force, and would be easy to secure by the United Nations Observer Mission, to ensure that there are no violations of the ceasefire and also to ensure that those who are monitoring the Agreement are doing so in a secure environment.

5. Rwanda proposes to have a zone that is not less than 200 kilometres wide in a line running from Dekese in the central zone to Moba on the eastern zone.

6. This will be done in phases, but it will also be on condition that the United Nations fully undertakes responsibility for the disengagement zone.

7. Rwanda hopes the United Nations will live up to its responsibility as stipulated by the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement and its own resolutions, particularly Security Council resolution 1291 (2000), and that it will encourage other signatories to emulate Rwanda's proposal.

Kigali
8 August 2000